

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PANAMA 03990 281559Z

71

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 INT-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 OMB-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00

RSR-01 /153 W

----- 082457

R 281515Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8087

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS PANAMA 3990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, PN, JR

SUBJECT: COPPER: GOVERNMENT SIGNS EXPLORATION CONCESSION
WITH JAPANESE CONSORTIUM

REF: (A) PANAMA 2796; (B) PANAMA 1380; (C) EMBASSY A-200,
OCTOBER 31, 1972

1. DESPITE PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT TETAQUILLA COPPER CONCESSION CONTRACT WAS REJECTED OUTRIGHT (REF A), JAPANESE CONSORTIUM HEADED BY MITSUI SIGNED A FOUR YEAR CONTRACT WITH GOP ON JULY 25, 1973. HOWEVER, NEW CONTRACT IS ONLY FOR EXPLORATION. ONCE PERIOD OF EXPLORATION IS ENDED AND IT HAS BEEN PROVED THAT EXPLOITATION WOULD BE COMMERCIALY PRODUCTIVE, GOP WILL GIVE FIRST OPTION FOR 90 DAYS TO JAPANESE CONSORTIUM SO THAT IT CAN NEGOTIATE A DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT. IF NO AGREEMENT IS REACHED ON NEW CONTRACT, GOP WILL REIMBURSE JAPANESE CONSORTIUM FOR EXPLORATION COSTS.

2. CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY MASAO KANEKO, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF COBRE PANAMA S.A., THE PANAMANIAN CORPORATION THROUGH WHICH CONSORTIUM IS OPERATING. MINISTER OF COMMERCE MANFREDO SIGNED FOR GOP. IN HIS ACCOMPANYING REMARKS HE SAID THE CONTRACT RESULTED FROM THE DECISION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL OMAR TORRIJOS, CHIEF
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PANAMA 03990 281559Z

OF GOP, TO GRANT ONLY AN EXPLORATION CONTRACT WITH A FIRST

OPTION FOR LATER NEGOTIATING EXPLOITATION CONTRACT.

3. CONTRACT STILL REQUIRES SIGNATURES OF CONTROLLER GENERAL
AND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC BEFORE IT BECOMES LEGALLY
BINDING.

4. AIRGRAM FOLLOWS.
SAYRE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PANAMA03990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973076/aaaaaduf.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 PANAMA 2796
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COPPER: GOVERNMENT SIGNS EXPLORATION CONCESSION WITH JAPANESE CONSORTIUM
TAGS: EMIN, PN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005